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MAGAZINE RANKS HALIFAX AS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN CANADA PAGE 3



HALIFAX metro®
Wednesday, March 21, 2012
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Coach's victims OUTRAGED by sentencing

PAGE 7

Graham James, accused sex offender, arrives at court on Tuesday in Winnipeg for sentencing. The former junior hockey coach was handed two years in prison for sexually preying on two of his former players. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Council OK's height plan

Planning. Exemption for proposed YMCA expansion at corner of South Park and Sackville streets receives unanimous support



JENNIFER TAPLIN
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The YMCA redevelopment passed another major hurdle Tuesday night.

After a lengthy public hearing, Halifax regional council voted 20-0 to amend height restrictions to allow the expansion project to proceed. They applied the Policy 89 exemption for projects that serve the public good. It will now go to the design committee.

Robert Richardson, chair of the board at the YMCA, said the 15- and 17-storey residential buildings — double the size allowed — are necessary to pay for a new $22-million recreation facility.

Richardson told council they're offering HRM a downtown recreation facility at no cost to the municipality and are only asking for an exemption to the height restrictions.

Alan Parish, who helped shape HRMbyDesign, warned council against making an exemption. He said the YMCA has other funding options and could find another site to build their project. Developers should seek to conform to the rules, not the other way around, he said.

Parish added it makes a mockery of HRMbyDesign and sets a precedent. The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia and other community groups also urged council to reject it.

Carla Wheaton, speaking for Parks Canada, was one who spoke out against the project.

"It will weaken protections that were established to protect the Citadel," she said, referring to the view planes.

But the vast majority of the 40-plus speakers expressed their support for the YMCA and the project. They spoke to the health and community benefits of the YMCA, and very little about height restrictions.

"Please listen to us. I know it's ambitious, but it's worth it," said one long-time Y member.

Others called it "critical" and vastly important to the community.

Jeremy Jackson, who runs a youth basketball club, said a lack of affordable gym space has forced them to turn kids away.

"We are absolutely crying out for more affordable gym time," he said.



The CBC building RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Quotable

"I think the evidence is overwhelming for public benefit."

Coun. Barry Dalrymple

Big night for Sid the Kid

Crosby's four assists help lead Pens past Jets

PAGE 19

Province 'on track'

Deficit continues to shrink, which could mean more money for you PAGE 4

Harsh words from Finley

Federal minister attacks the province's jobs strategy

PAGE 5



NSGEU Local 42

HEALTH CARE WORKERS AT THE CAPITAL DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY

We are committed to providing Emergency Services at Capital Health

This is a message to all Nova Scotians from the 3,500 members of NSGEU Local 42. Every minute of every day, we provide a vast range of health care services at Capital Health. We are everything from Anaesthesia Assistants and Licensed Practical Nurses to Medical Lab Techs and Pharmacists. We all share a common goal: saving people's lives and helping them get better.

It is a huge responsibility and we take it very seriously. That is why, in 1998, we negotiated "Emergency Services" provisions into our collective agreement. These provisions ensure that an appropriate number of us will continue to provide the emergency care people need in the event of a strike.

History shows these provisions work: In every round of bargaining in which these provisions have been required, including the current round, we have been able to reach openly negotiated agreement with the employer on the provision of emergency services.

As you may have already heard, we are in the process of bargaining our next collective agreement and a significant majority of us have voted in favour of strike to express our serious concerns about the priorities of our employer and our government: they are making unsustainable demands on our time, our energy, and our resources.



Charlene is a Medical Lab Tech in Blood Transfusion Services at the Halifax Infirmary.

We are not just negotiating our wages and working conditions; we are negotiating to protect the public health care we are so committed to delivering.

Rest assured that if we are forced to strike to have our concerns heard, we will continue to honour our responsibility to provide emergency services to all who need them.

We are proud of what we do and are striving constantly to do it better.

Transportation

New 5 km expressway greenlit by council

As Bedford Coun. Tim Outhit puts it, Tuesday was a big day for commuters.

Halifax regional council OK'd the sale of 168 acres of land to the province to build the Burnside Sackville Expressway, a bypass on the Highway 107.

"This one has been discussed for 20-plus years," said Mayor Peter Kelly.

The sale agreement requires the province to complete the roadway extension of Akerley Boulevard, by Dec. 31, 2014.

Kelly wouldn't say what they sold land for until the sale is finalized, but he said it was market value. The money will go into Burnside Industrial Park fund.

"It's great news for the people of Bedford and Sackville," said Outhit.

The five-kilometre roadway will divert traffic from Dartmouth Road and Magazine Hill, and allow truck traffic from Burnside to Highway 102 and beyond.

But the expressway will also provide access to the Burnside's Phase 13 – meaning more development in the business park.

Sue Mckeage, spokeswoman for transportation and infrastructure renewal, said the cost of the entire project is $52 million — $17 million of which comes from federal funding.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO



An aerial view of downtown Halifax. HALIFAX DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO

Halifax 'stepping up' with ranking

Best places to live. City jumps 17 spots in Canadian magazine's yearly survey



JENNIFER TAPLIN
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Fourth place doesn't sound very exciting — it's off the podium after all — but Mayor Peter Kelly is proud of Halifax's ranking this year on MoneySense magazine's best places to live in Canada.

It's probably because Halifax jumped to fourth from last year's placing of 21st.

"It's nice to see they're finally recognizing the options and the beauty of this area because it's all there," Kelly said. "We've known it for years and we're stepping up there going from 21 to number four is a great jump."

The personal finance and lifestyle magazine ranks 190 Canadian cities each year in categories such as house prices, crime rates, employment, and health care. Each city or town with a population of 10,000 people or more is ranked against 22 categories, which include climate, ease of travel, affordable housing, and population growth.

Halifax's jump was due to gains in employment and population growth, the magazine said.

"The move was due to an improved unemployment rate (5.5 per cent) following growth in the transportation, education and service sectors," the magazine reads.

"The city also gets high marks for the number of people who bicycle or walk to work, its affordable housing, decent public transit system, high household income, culture, and the number of healthcare professionals and doctors."

Top five

Halifax and Regina are the only two cities outside of Ontario to make the top five. Ottawa took the No. 1 spot.

- **Rankings of other Nova Scotia municipalities among the 190 cities or towns.** Kentville — 151, Cape Breton — 181, Truro — 187, New Glasgow — 190

Development. Coun. Harvey wants a second look into Skye

Skye Halifax will make an unexpected appearance at Halifax regional council next week.

On Tuesday, Coun. Bob Harvey put forth a notice of motion that he will ask for a rescission vote on the decision to move forward with the Skye development.

On Feb. 21, council went against a staff recommendation to kill the 48-storey building planned for 1591 Granville St.

While Harvey is hoping council will change its mind, Mayor Peter Kelly doesn't think that will happen — at least not at this point.

"We've already approved the process that's unfolding and it has to go through the public hearing as it was directed, and council will have its say after that," Kelly said.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

Proposal

The proposal from United Gulf Development Ltd. on the site of their former "twisted sister" development would stand 150 metres tall. Council is considering granting them an exception since the downtown plan limits building heights to 66 metres.

New Brunswick

Moncton wants to build sports centre at mall site

Moncton wants to build a large multi-purpose sports and recreation centre on the site of a downtown shopping mall in the New Brunswick city.

The city says it has purchased an option to buy the Highfield Square shopping centre property for $6 million.

A city spokesman says council has approved the plan.

The terms of the option give the city until Friday to work to close the deal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

2015 FIFA women's soccer bid. Will stadium discussions be enough?

There have been no formal applications for funding from HRM to other levels of government on an outdoor stadium, but Mayor Peter Kelly doesn't appear to be concerned.

"We have met with the premier and other staff on staff-to-staff levels and we've met with ministers in Ottawa," he said on Tuesday.

Kelly said Halifax regional council will find out the results of those discussions when the stadium report is brought up to council March 27 —– four days before the deadline set by the Canadian Soccer Association.



Peter Kelly METRO

Halifax is one of seven cities looking to host the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup of Soccer.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO

1 NEWS

Mobile news

While it might be more comfortable to sleep through a colonoscopy, the side effects of the sedation amount to more than just grogginess. Scan the code for the story.

On the web

Quake ignites memories

A 7.4-magnitude quake shook central and southern Mexico yesterday, reminding some of the bitter memories of the 1985 quake that killed hundreds. For videos, reactions and the science behind the quake, visit metronews.ca



Coming spring budget offers 'modest' income-tax break

Deficit reduction. Finance Minister Graham Steele unveils budget details in speech to Halifax Chamber of Commerce


ALEX BOUTILIER
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Running the numbers

- **April 3.** Finance Minister Graham Steele said he expects to table the budget on April 3, although any surprises in the federal budget, coming down on March 29, could push that date back.



Finance Minister Graham Steele delivers some upbeat news on Tuesday while presenting his budget forecast and fiscal update to the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. MIKE DEMBECK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The province is projecting a slightly smaller deficit than expected — again.

Finance Minister Graham Steele said Tuesday that, based on current projections, he expects to table a $260.8-million deficit in the first week of April.

That's down from the $389.6 million projected when he tabled the 2011-12 budget last spring — a difference of $128.8 million.

"We continue to be on track," Steele told reporters. "To get this province back to balance, we have continued to exercise restraint and good fiscal management … (and) are on a smooth path to balancing the books in 2013, as planned."

Documents provided by the Finance Department show departmental spending is $72 million under budget. Debt-servicing costs — driven by favourable interest rates — accounted for $47 million in savings. That offsets a $56.6-million drop in provincial revenue, primarily due to previous year adjustments and a decrease in corporate and sales taxes versus 2011-12 projections.

Steele told the Halifax Chamber of Commerce earlier in the day that it can expect a "modest, but real" cut in personal income tax and the elimination of the large corporate capital tax. He also promised no significant new revenue measures and more support for the poor and disabled.

Steele did not go into specifics with reporters. But when asked why the province was reducing income tax rather than, say, the harmonized sales tax, Steele said the measures were much more modest in nature.

"The HST is $175 million per point. That is simply too much," he said.

"When we get to balance, the next question is how do we get to sustainable surplus, and once we get to surplus we can have those really good conversations … but we're not there yet."

Steele noted it is the third year in a row government departments have come in under budget, a fact opposition critics say has more to do with inflated budget projections than spending restraint.

Opposition questions updated budget forecast


Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

The fact that departmental spending came in under budget is of little surprise to Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie.

"When you look at the statement and see just about every department is claiming to be under budget, it makes you question the budget itself," Baillie said Tuesday after Finance Minister Graham Steele unveiled his updated budget projections.

"Expenses are still up over last year. This is the third year in a row we're going to have a deficit budget."

New forecasts from the department of finance predict a $260.8-million deficit for 2011-12. That's down by more than $128 million from budget forecasts a year ago.

Total revenues rose by $7 million while expenses dropped by $113 million compared to the budget Steele tabled in April 2011.

Liberal Finance Critic Diana Whalen questions whether the NDP will follow through on a "modest" cut to income tax.

Bottom line

- **Income-tax cut.** Graham Steele said the cut to income tax — the details of which will not be available until budget day — is modest, but will affect the bottom line of thousands of Nova Scotians.

"We haven't seen that cut yet to income tax. We don't know if it's even going to come," she said.

"We've had two years of increased fees and taxes, and that's hurt all Nova Scotians. So I'll wait and see whether or not there will be indeed any decreases in income tax … I don't expect much and I think it will be a token, if anything." ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

Roadwork ahead

Province, city launch joint pothole blitz

With spring in the air, the province and HRM are looking at getting an early start on fixing the pesky potholes opening up around the city.

Both levels of government issued releases on Tuesday saying they will be out fixing potholes now that warmer weather has arrived ahead of schedule.

Municipal operations crews with HRM began working to patch potholes on Monday and will continue to do so over the next few weeks, weather permitting.

According to a provincial release, the first focus will be fixing the potholes on high-traffic roads, including the 100-series highways.

The province and HRM are also asking the public to help them identify where pothole problems are. METRO

Through the roof

Cops seeking answers in foiled jewelry heist

Halifax police are investigating after a Dartmouth jewelry store was broken into Tuesday morning. Nothing is believed to have been taken at Princesa Gold Jewellers at 169 Main St., but whoever is responsible seemingly entered through the roof, police say. METRO

Fender-bender

Driver smashes into two vehicles, fire hydrant

Police are looking for the male driver of a car who evaded police before smashing into two parked vehicles and a fire hydrant.

Halifax RCMP say one of their officers was patrolling the Forest Hills Parkway at 3:15 a.m. on Tuesday when a motorist in a 2002 Mazda Protege appeared to be driving unsafely.

The officer tried to stop the vehicle, but police say he refused to pull over, then picked up speed.

Eventually, the vehicle collided with a parked car and truck on Amaranth Crescent, then the fire hydrant, before coming to a stop against a power pole.

The driver fled the area and wasn't found by a police K-9 unit. METRO

Look up, way up

Summerside hosting air show

Presented by private sponsors and the federal and provincial governments, the Atlantic Canada International Air Show will be held at Summerside Airport in P.E.I. on Aug. 25 and 26. The Royal Canadian Air Force Snowbirds and the U.S. Navy Blue Angels are confirmed performers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Job loss

Dartmouth printing plant shutting down

Transcontinental Inc. will cut about 500 jobs as it integrates its recent acquisition of Quad/Graphics' Canadian printing operations, saying the cuts will better position the company in a tough market.

Two of the six Quad/Graphics plants — one in Dartmouth and one in suburban Montreal — will close by the end of June, Transcontinental said Tuesday.

Transcontinental said that in the coming months some 500 of the 6,900 employees currently working at 33 printing plants will be affected by the integration of the Quad/Graphics acquisition. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mental health

IWK rally to protest youth-care-worker job cuts

A rally and information picket is set at the IWK Health Centre on Wednesday starting at noon to protest the recent cuts of 22 youth care worker positions at the hospital.



IWK Health Centre
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

The Nova Scotia Government Employees Union said in a release the cuts will result in serious problems for those with behavioural and mental health needs.
PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

Fisheries management

Animal-welfare group condemns harp-seal quota

The Fisheries Department has set the annual harp-seal quota amid criticism that the allowance is too high at a time when markets for the product are drying up.

The department's website Tuesday listed the total allowable catch for harp seals at 400,000, which is the same as last year and includes a 20,000 developmental quota.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare is condemning the decision, saying it flies in the face of proper fisheries management.

In a release, the group says scientists have warned that the harp seal population and its productivity are declining. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Finley targets province over immigration

Foreign workers. Federal minister questions Nova Scotia's request for more provincial nominees



ALEX BOUTILIER
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Diane Finley THE CANADIAN PRESS

Diane Finley thinks Nova Scotia should deal with its unemployment before asking Ottawa for a higher cap for skilled foreign workers.

At a press conference at Irving Shipbuilding on Tuesday, the federal human resources minister took aim at Premier Darrell Dexter and the NDP government's position on the provincial nominee program.

"Surprisingly, with 42,000 Nova Scotians looking for work, the provincial government is already calling for the federal government to allow foreign workers to come to Canada to perform work on the ships," Finley said.

"(The federal government knows) that those workers can be found in Nova Scotia, and our first priority is linking the 42,000 looking for work with the shipbuilding jobs that will be available."

When asked whether she has an issue with Irving's recruitment strategy, which seeks workers from the United States and the United Kingdom, Finley noted that's the third priority behind employing current Nova Scotians and bringing ex-pats home.

The province has been lobbying Ottawa for years to increase or remove the cap on Nova Scotia's provincial nominees. Only 500 people can be accepted per year, while Manitoba, with a comparable population, can accept ten times that amount.

Provincial Immigration Minister Marilyn More said on Tuesday she was puzzled by the remarks.

"I'm not sure what Minister Finley is basing her conclusions or her comments on," More said.

"It's my understanding that there are approximately 1.4-million unemployed people in Canada. Is she suggesting that Canada should close its doors to immigration?"

As of February, Nova Scotia had an unemployment rate of 8.2 per cent — 0.8 per cent higher than the Canadian average.



Premier Darrell Dexter speaks to reporters after Irving's Halifax Shipyard was announced as the winner of a $25-billion shipbuilding contract in October.
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Five stamps to mark a century since the Titanic



Canada Post unveiled the images Tuesday of the five stamps that will be issued on April 5 to mark the centennial of the sinking of RMS Titanic. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT/CANADA POST

Five stamps commemorating the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic will be released by Canada Post on April 5.

The stamps, created by designers Dennis Page and Oliver Hill of Halifax, depict various parts of the Titanic, which hit an iceberg and sank in the North Atlantic on April 15, 1912, with the loss of 1,500 lives.

A souvenir sheet of four stamps depict the bow of the Titanic stretched over a map of the Atlantic Ocean between the points of Southampton in England and Halifax.

The sheet of stamps also shows workers below the ship's three propellers.

A fifth stamp depicts the Titanic at sea between Southampton and Halifax with Cape Race, N.L., highlighted because its radio station was the first land-based site to receive the ill-fated ship's distress signal.

Halifax played a central role in the Titanic story as cable ships from the city were dispatched to pick up bodies from the Atlantic in the days after the accident.

Three cemeteries in the city contain the remains of 150 people whose bodies were recovered at sea.

Page says designing the Titanic stamp was a challenge.

"This was the biggest man-made moving object on Earth that after setting off on her maiden voyage hit an iceberg and ended in disaster. That really stuck with me and how I was going to show that feeling," he said in a statement released Tuesday when the stamps were unveiled.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police fear French gunman may have ties to neo-Nazis

Shootings. President Nicolas Sarkozy has raised the terror alert and added 14 new units of riot police to the region after attack

Police searched southern France on Tuesday for an expert gunman suspected of fatally shooting seven people in the head at close range in attacks that may have been motivated by neo-Nazi ties or grudges against minorities.

The shooter is suspected of carrying out three deadly attacks: one leaving four people dead on Monday at a Jewish school in Toulouse, three of them young children; killing two French paratroopers and seriously wounding another last Thursday in nearby Montauban; and fatally shooting another paratrooper in Toulouse on March 11.

All the victims in the school attack were Jewish with duel French-Israeli citizenship, and the paratroopers were of North African or French Caribbean origin.

The shots were fired at such close range that the gunfire burned the skin, prosecutor Francois Molins said Tuesday.

"We are confronted with an individual extremely determined in his actions, an armed individual who acts always with the same modus operandi," he said, "in cold blood ... with premeditated actions."

He added the crimes appear to be premeditated due to the killer's "choices of victims and the choices of his targets" — the army, the foreign origin of the victims or their religion. The killer could "act again," he said.

Interior Minister Claude Gueant described the suspect as "someone very cold, very determined, very much a master of his movements, and by consequence, very cruel."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mourners follow the hearse carrying the coffins of the victims following a ceremony at the Ozar Hatorah Jewish school, in France, where a gunman killed four people. REMY DE LA MAUVINIERE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Earthquake in Mexico City topples buildings and sends terrified residents fleeing

A woman comforts her crying children outside a school in the Roma neighbourhood after an earthquake was felt in Mexico City on Tuesday. A strong, long earthquake with its epicentre in Guerrero state shook central southern Mexico, swaying buildings in Mexico City and sending frightened workers and residents into the streets. More than 60 homes were damaged near the epicentre. Fear and panic spread as a less powerful, magnitude-5.1 aftershock was also felt in the capital, where there were no reports of deaths by press time. ALEXANDRE MENEGHINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Lawyer: Slain teen's girlfriend heard fight that led to shooting

The attorney for the family of a black teenager fatally shot by a neighbourhood-watch captain said Tuesday that the boy was talking to his girlfriend on his cellphone when the confrontation began. She heard an exchange of words, what sounded like a scuffle, but not the shooting.

The phone call was discussed at a news conference that followed announcements that the U.S. Justice Department would probe the death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin and that a local grand jury will also consider evidence in the case.

George Zimmerman, 28, claims he shot Martin in self-defence during the confrontation last month in a gated community in Sanford, Fla.

Attorney Benjamin Crump, who represents Martin's parents, said he plans to turn over information about the call to federal investigators who are looking into the case. The Justice Department announced their involvement late Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Trayvon Martin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/MARTIN FAMILY

Off-colour joke. Obama criticized for Robert De Niro's joke at event

In a country that asked itself just four short years ago if it was ready for its first black president, a joke by famed actor Robert De Niro at a star-studded Manhattan fundraiser for U.S. President Barack Obama has caused a curious stir.

"Callista Gingrich. Karen Santorum. Ann Romney. Now, do you really think our country is ready for a white first lady?" the actor said to roars of laughter from a crowd that included Michelle Obama.

When someone in the audience yelled: "No!" DeNiro continued, "Too soon, right?" But in a nation where hot-button race issues loom large, Obama's re-election campaign team was quick to distance itself from the remark while Newt Gingrich, the Republican presidential hopeful with a fondness for hyperbole, demanded the president apologize for it.

"We believe the joke was inappropriate," Olivia Alair, campaign press secretary to Michelle Obama, said in a statement.

Gingrich went much further, calling it "inexcusable."

"On behalf of my wife and on behalf of Karen Santorum and on behalf of Ann Romney — I think that Robert De Niro's wrong," Gingrich said at a campaign stop in Louisiana. "I think the country is ready for a new first lady and he doesn't have to describe it in racial terms."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two years, two broken lives

Graham James is sentenced. Talk shows and Twitter aflame as former hockey coach is sent to jail for hundreds of sex assaults on two players

"The most hated man in hockey" became even more reviled Tuesday.

Outrage across Canada was swift as former junior hockey coach Graham James was sentenced to two years in jail for hundreds of sexual assaults on two of his teenage players.

Few seemed to agree the sentence fitted the crime.

A spectator in the Winnipeg courtroom shouted "Yay!" then spat out a more colourful condemnation as James was led away in handcuffs.

"Goodbye, you piece of (expletive)," the man said.

Talk show phone lines lit up with people expressing harsh views of the sentence. Others took to Twitter to voice their disgust.

"Graham James gets two years for all the lives he's ruined? Someone caught with weed gets a harsher sentence," one person tweeted. "Is that justice?"

Judge Catherine Carlson made James stand up in the prisoner's box to hear his fate.

The 59-year-old — looking gaunt, his head closely shaven — showed no emotion but simply answered "yes" when she asked him if he understood the sentence.

James pleaded guilty in December to repeatedly sexually abusing retired NHL star Theo Fleury and his cousin, Todd Holt, when they played for him in the Western Hockey League in the 1980s and '90s.

Carlson said in her lengthy sentence summation: "There is no sentence this court can impose that will give back to Mr. Holt and Mr. Fleury that which was taken from them by Mr. James."

In Cochrane, Alta., Holt declared: "This sentence today is nothing short of a national travesty because we know that childhood abuse has reached epidemic proportions in our country."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



A court artist's sketch shows Graham James during his sentencing hearing in a Winnipeg courtroom on Tuesday. TOM ANDRICH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The victims



"Graham James is laughing all the way back to the life he has always led, knowing that justice for him is but a blip on the radar."

Todd Holt,
who, along with his cousin, NHLer Theo Fleury, was a victim of James.



"Obviously, it's not a sentence we all want to see. At least he's going back to jail."

Former NHLer Sheldon Kennedy,
one of the original players to come forward with accusations to which James pleaded guilty in 1997.

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Should your employer be your 'friend'?



Robert Collins of Baltimore was asked for his Facebook login and password during an interview for a job as a security guard.
STEVE RUARK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Social media. Some companies and government agencies are asking job applicants for access to their Facebook account

In their efforts to vet job applicants, some companies and U.S. government agencies are going beyond merely glancing at a person's social networking profiles and instead are asking to log in as the user to have a look around.

Questions have been raised about the legality of the practice, which is the focus of proposed legislation in Illinois and Maryland that would forbid public agencies from asking for access to social networks.

Since the rise of social networking, it has become common for managers to review publicly available Facebook profiles, Twitter accounts and other sites to learn more about job candidates. But many users, especially on Facebook, have their profiles set to private, making them available only to selected people or certain networks.

Companies that don't ask for passwords have taken other steps — such as asking applicants to friend human resource managers or to log in to a company computer during an interview.

Asking for a candidate's password is more prevalent among public agencies, especially those seeking to fill law enforcement positions such as police officers.

Back in 2010, Robert Collins was returning to his job as a security guard at the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services after taking a leave following his mother's death. During a reinstatement interview, he was asked for his login and password, purportedly so the agency could check for any gang affiliations. He was stunned by the request but complied.

"I needed my job to feed my family. I had to," he recalled.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Privacy concerns

"It's akin to requiring someone's house keys.... (It's) an egregious privacy violation."

Orin Kerr, law professor
George Washington University



Clear message for Kim Jong Un

An effigy of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is put on a mock North Korean missile during an anti-North Korea rally in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, over the North's plan to launch a long-range rocket. North Korea vowed Sunday to go ahead with its plans, rejecting criticism in the West that doing so would scuttle recent diplomacy. LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

101 years. Paraglider jumps into record books

A 101-year-old U.S. woman who ushered in her birthday with a tandem paraglide ride last year was soaring into the record books Tuesday.

Great-great grandmother Mary Hardison, of Ogden, Utah, has been officially recognized as the "Oldest Female to Paraglide Tandem" by Guinness World Records. She supplanted a 100-year-old woman from Cyprus who took her flight in 2007.

Hardison flew with an instructor on Sept. 1, 2011, while four generations of her family watched and cheered.



Mary Hardison says she was "just going on a little ride."
JEREMY CASTELLANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The flight went smoothly and even included a few tricks that Hardison encouraged.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London riots. Harry Potter actor gets 2 years in jail

A judge has sent a cast member of the Harry Potter films to prison for taking part in rioting that flared across England last summer.

Judge Simon Carr sentenced Jamie Waylett, 22, who played Hogwarts bully Vincent Crabbe in six of the films, to two years in jail. Prosecutors said Waylett was part of a small gang that took part in the riots in north London on Aug. 8.

A jury at London's Wood Green Crown Court found Waylett guilty Tuesday of violent disorder, but acquitted him of another charge of intending to destroy or damage property.



Jamie Waylett at a Harry Potter film premiere in 2005.
PETER KRAMER/GETTY IMAGES

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earhart. Lost aviator was an inspiration: Clinton

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton had encouraging words Tuesday for a new investigation into one of the 20th century's most enduring mysteries: the fate of American aviator Amelia Earhart, who went missing without a trace over the South Pacific 75 years ago.

Clinton and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood gave their support and encouragement on Tuesday to historians, scientists and salvagers from The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery, which is launching a new search for the wreckage of Earhart's Lockheed Electra plane.

Earhart was an inspiration to Americans in difficult times as the nation struggled to emerge from the Great Depression of the 1930s, Clinton said, adding that her legacy can serve as a model for the country now.

"We can be as optimistic and even audacious as Amelia Earhart," she said. "We can be defined not by the limits that hold us down but by the opportunities that are ahead." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A man walks past an ad featuring models in Tel Aviv. ODED BALILTY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israeli law bans too-thin models

Image issue. Groundbreaking legislation aims to encourage realistic portrayals in local advertising

Told she was too fat to be a model, Danielle Segal shed a quarter of her original 116-pound weight and was hospitalized twice for malnutrition. The girl weighed 88 pounds by then, or about as much as a robust preteen, and her health suffered.

Now that a new Israeli law prohibits the employment of underweight models, the 19-year-old must gain some of it back if she wants to work again.

The legislation passed this week aims to put a stop to the extremes, and by extension ease the pressure on youngsters to emulate the skin-and-bones models, often resulting in dangerous eating disorders.

The new law poses a challenge to a fashion industry widely castigated for promoting anorexia and bulimia. Its sponsors say it could become an example for other countries grappling with the spread of the life-threatening disorders.

The law requires models to produce a medical report no more than three months old at every shoot for the Israeli market, stating that they are not malnourished, according to World Health Organization standards. About two per cent of teenage Israeli girls have severe eating disorders, experts note. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Moment

DOLLAR
100.83¢ US
(-0.44¢)

TSX
12,430.7 (-48.99)

OIL
$105.61 US (-$2.48)

GOLD
$1,647 US (-$20.30)

Natural gas: $2.335 US (-1.6¢)
Dow Jones: 13,170.19 (-68.94)

Occupational safety

Walmart guilty in workplace death

Walmart says it has pleaded guilty to three workplace safety charges in the death of a teenage worker in New Brunswick last year.

The retail giant was charged under the Occupational Health and Safety Act after a 17-year-old employee at a store in Grand Falls was electrocuted on Jan. 5, 2011.

Patrick Desjardins was using a floor buffer on a wet floor in a garage at the time.

The agency issued several orders against Walmart after the death and it says the company has complied with those orders.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Labour laws. Air Canada unions challenge stay-at-work legislation

Two of Air Canada's largest employee groups are launching constitutional challenges against federal legislation that prevents a strike or lockout at the country's largest carrier.

The union representing pilots said Tuesday that it filed suit in Ontario Superior Court, while the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers added it will soon pursue its own effort.

The pilots said the Protecting Air Service Act prohibits pilots from exercising their right to strike and contravenes three sections of the charter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCARY LIT RAISES SPECTRE OF GORE-STOKED GENERATION



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Now that my own children are grown and there's nothing I can do about them, it's time to start worrying about the next generation.

After all, they're the ones who are going to find me in my single room buried under mouldy Starbucks venti lattes and ship me off to the state geezer preserve.

And if what they're up to right now is any indication, I have no reason to expect compassion.

I started thinking about the next generation after hearing that Judy Blume's novels are about to be turned into ebooks. And publishers are worried that today's kids, raised on a steady diet of vampires, human sacrifice and Grand Theft Auto, will find her books bland and boring.

This was once the most banned author in North America, whose most banned book (Forever) opened with the following line: "Sybil Davison has a genius I.Q. and has been laid by at least six different guys."

That got you banned in 1975, but these days it's so tame that even the censors can't work up enough jam to read it, even if they can download it instantly.

'Blood and sacrifice'

"These days, you have to add blood and sacrifice for kids to stop sexting and virtually stoning each other on Am I Ugly and read instead."

These days, you have to add blood and sacrifice for kids to stop sexting and virtually stoning each other on Am I Ugly and read instead. The average teenager sends 60 text messages a day and spends more than seven hours a day "using" media, 80 per cent of it social media.

When Judy Blume was freaking out parents and librarians, there was no Internet. You had to look into a mirror to find out if you were ugly. Now you post a photo on the Internet and let the world have its way with you.

So what are we raising? Pretty little bloodthirsty, depraved, techno-robotic, Borg-minded, crypto-fascist, superstitious sociopaths? Maybe.

At least they can help you unlock your cellphone.

When my kids were young, the biggest threat to their mental health was V.C. Andrews, who dealt in incest and various forms of abuse. Plus she was a terrible writer. By comparison, Judy Blume was Shakespeare. Of course, nobody reads him anymore either, not as long as we have Suzanne Collins (The Hunger Games) or Stephanie Meyer (Twilight).

Today, "writing" is a kind of delivery mechanism, like a syringe or a hand-held rocket launcher. Ideas are no longer than 140 characters and something gets killed at the end.

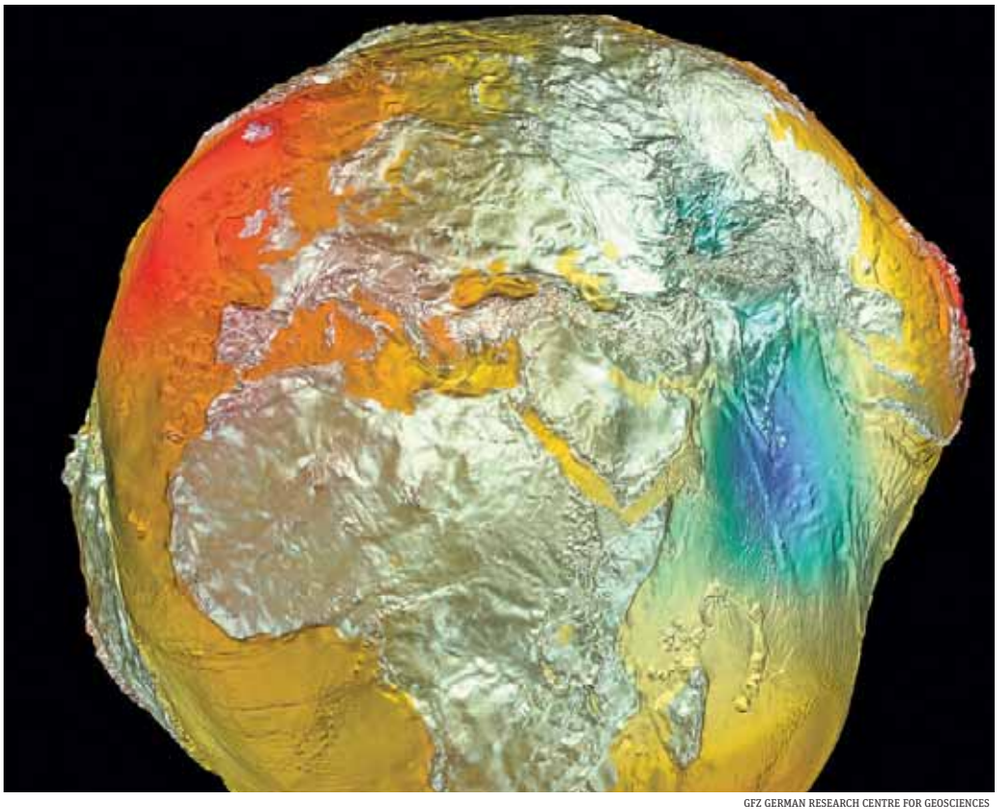
For those who still remember, it's like Brave New World meets Lord of the Flies.

With zombies.



Jennifer Lawrence portrays Katniss Everdeen in a scene from The Hunger Games based on Suzanne Collins' novel. MURRAY CLOSE/LIONSGATE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Planet 'potato' down to earth



GFZ GERMAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR GEOSCIENCES

3-D mapping

Map shows how Earth changes

For most of us, our planet is spherical in shape, but for some German geoscientists tracking planetary changes, it looks like a potato. Based on data from NASA satellites, the "Potsdam Gravity Potato" is a 3-D mapping that reveals how melting ice has changed Earth's gravity. MWN

Gravity field

"When the mass of Greenland's ice sheet changes, so does the gravity there. Gravity field measurements give us information on mass changes, including climate-related ones."

Frank Flechtner, expert from GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences

Geoscience

'Potato' based on Newton's law

"This is not a gimmick," the Potsdam-based scientists say. The "Gravity Potato," first developed in 1995, is based on one of Newton's laws that states an object's gravity depends on its mass. Earth's uneven distribution of mass means varying gravitational pull on the surface. MWN

This year's 'potato'

The bulge rises in Japan

- The bulge in Far East Asia shows the dramatic changes in solid earth as a result of Japan's earthquakes in 2011.

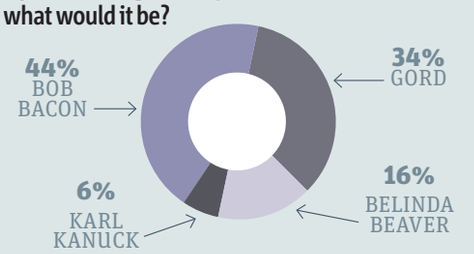
Loss of ice mass = sea rise

- Greenland's ice shield had 240 gigatons of mass loss between 2002 and 2011, corresponding to a sea level rise of 0.7 mm per year.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

If you were to get a cellphone under a fake name, what would it be?



Twitter

@jshannnn
patios in #halifax need to open ASAP ... that's all.

@MorrisseyCarmen
It's a beautiful day in the neighbourhood, #Halifax! Mr. Rogers would have been 84 today. I miss him!

@SparkleKarkles
Beautiful in #Halifax today! Plus Venezuelan sailors are in town! ooolala~~~

@EastCoastLiving
1st street meat of the season always tastes the best; the vendors are back at SGR library. Fingers crossed spring is here to stay #halifax

@GeoffHum
Time to dust off the Birkenstocks and golf clubs. Who needs down south when we have this weather?

@KatPyne
Is it just me or have I applied to every job in Halifax for the summer... Somebody hook me up please!

metro
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‘Not your everyday villain’



Alexander Ludwig is photographed by fans as he arrives on the red carpet for the premiere of The Hunger Games on Monday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Golden boy. New on the scene, Alexander Ludwig says fans don’t mind he plays a trained killer in The Hunger Games

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

At six-feet, two-inches with all-American good looks (even though he was born in Vancouver), Alexander Ludwig doesn’t look like a super villain. But to fans of The Hunger Games he is the baddest baddie of them all, Cato, the brute from District 2.

“He was born and raised a killer and that’s all he knew how to do,” says the 20-year-old actor.

“But he’s not your everyday villain. There’s a lot more substance and depth to this guy. You can tell he’s had a tortured life.”

Trained as a killer, Cato has spent his whole life preparing for his turn in The Hunger Games, a kind of murderous reality show.

“I’m playing the most feared guy in the arena so I didn’t know how I was going to be received by everyone else in the cast,” he says of his co-stars Jennifer Lawrence and Josh Hutcherson. “I was cautious about it, but everyone was amazing.”

One thing is for sure; he made an impression on one stunt man.

“I hit a stunt guy across the face with the butt end of a rubber bat when I was filming,” he says, “but once you do that you have keep going because they’re going to kick your ass if you don’t. ‘What are you doing? That was the perfect sell because you actually hit me.’ I felt so bad.”

He says that despite the movie’s dark subject matter and the odd bruised stunt man, the mood on set was light.

“It is important to have contrast when the material is so dark. There’s all this tense energy and right after they yell, ‘Cut’ you can breathe.”

He’s also breathing a little easier now the movie is done and fans have embraced him.

“I have been so, so happy about the way I have been received because it could go either way,” he says.

“Everyone’s been very excited to see me and meet me. No one has said, ‘Screw you, Cato!’ I hope it stays like this. Everyone likes being liked and I chose this role knowing that it could go the other way.”

“I’m just riding this crazy experience. You really can’t think about it because you don’t know what to expect. Every day is a new experience.

I walked out of my hotel room this morning and there were fans outside. I can’t believe this is happening to me. It’s wild.”

If looks could kill

“Everyone’s been very excited to see me and meet me. No one has said, ‘Screw you, Cato!’ I hope it stays like this. Everyone likes being liked and I chose this role knowing that it could go the other way.”

Actor Alexander Ludwig,
on playing the evil Cato in The Hunger Games.

2 SCENE

Virgin space travellers

Kutcher signs up

Richard Branson says his venture to launch paying tourists into space has netted its 500th customer, and it’s none other than Ashton Kutcher. Branson made the announcement on his blog Monday. He called the actor to congratulate him and said Kutcher is thrilled at the prospect of being among the first to cross “the final frontier” aboard Virgin Galactic.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



On the web

Kevin Costner’s lawyers tell SD high court actor did not breach contract with sculpture artist




Simon Cowell

Cowell considering killing off X Factor if ratings continue to dip

Despite all the rumors about negotiating with Britney Spears to come on board as a judge, Simon Cowell may have altogether different plans for the U.S. edition of the X Factor — and they involve cancelling the show altogether.

"I'd rather fall off the cliff on numbers than deteriorate slowly," Cowell said at a press conference for the launch of another season of Britain's Got Talent.

"We have something in development, which could replace The X Factor."

Quote

"I'd rather fall off the cliff on numbers than deteriorate slowly."

Simon Cowell
speaking about X-Factor's ratings.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Is Kim Zolciak jacking Jessica Simpson's swagger?



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca



Kim Zolciak must be getting tired of Jessica Simpson stealing the blond-weave-wearing-pregnant-lady spotlight, as it was announced yesterday that she and husband Kroy Biermann, 26, are wasting no time expanding their family. After giving birth to their son, Kroy Jagger (KJ) Jr., last May, Life & Style is exclusively reporting that the couple is expecting their second baby.

"Kroy and I are so excited," Kim, 33, tells the magazine. "To decide we wanted to get pregnant again and have it happen so quickly was such a blessing."

I'd go all conspiracy theorist on you and say Kim and Kroy are just now revealing this news to bring attention to the TV special about their lavish November wedding, Don't Be Tardy for the Wedding, which premieres on April 26 at 9 p.m. on Bravo. But, come on: anyone who films their wedding for reality TV will of course try to capitalize off of a pregnancy. There's no conspiracy about it.


Goldie Hawn

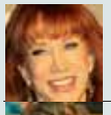
Goldie Hawn denies saying Hudson married rock star boyfriend

Goldie Hawn set off a rash of speculation that daughter Kate Hudson had already secretly wed fiancé Matt Bellamy when she told ES magazine,

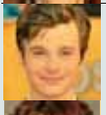
"When my daughter Kate married an English rock star it didn't worry me."

But Hawn doesn't stand by the quote. When a Twitter follower asked her, "So are Kate and Matt really married, or are the press twisting your words?" Hawn responded, "Darling, once again

Twitter



@kathygriffin
Larry the dog got out & was missing ALL DAY! Got a call & WHO rescued him? @KalPenn! #Random #grateful



@chriscolfer
My goldfish have love handles. I may be over feeding them...



@diablocody
Currently watching a dad TIE his daughter to a piece of playground equipment so she can't fall off. He's using police tape, which makes it extra weird.



@AlbertBrooks
If it walks like a duck, looks like a duck, quacks like a duck, it still could be a chicken doing impressions.

5 DAYS TO
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Exhibit helps MythBusters take their show on the road

Museum. Discovery Channel program creates a science-based exhibit at a museum in Chicago, with plans to tour the showcase

If you go...

- **Mythbusters.** Through Sept. 3 at Museum of Science and Industry, 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, Chicago; msichicago.org or 773-684-1414. Open daily 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Timed ticketing; adults, $25, children 3-11, $18 (general admission plus $10).

Who gets wetter, someone walking in the rain or running? Is it really possible to hang from a cliff by your fingers until help arrives like they do in the movies? And is Superman the only one who is faster than a speeding bullet?

Those are questions the Discovery Channel's MythBusters has asked for years, and starting last week, anybody who's wondered how long it takes to put on a superhero outfit in a phone booth — don't forget the cape — can answer them for themselves at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry.

MythBusters: The Explosive Exhibition, opened March 15, marking the first time the show has taken such questions on the road. The Chicago exhibition, which runs through Sept. 3, is the first of a planned national tour that will include stops at several other U.S. cities.

"This has both the science and also a sense of humour, what we've been doing for a decade," Adam Savage, one of the show's hosts, said this week before the exhibition opened.

Just like on the show, the exhibit is a kind of scientific bait and switch. It starts with something visitors have seen in the movies or on TV or that they can recall from their own experiences.

"That's the hook," said Jamie Hyneman, also a MythBusters co-host. "That gets them involved and before they know what happens they've actually learned something or been lured into thinking carefully about what's going on."

The exhibit consists of about a dozen stations mixed in with props familiar to viewers, like the actual casket Hyneman lay in for a segment on being buried alive. In one station shaped like a ship cargo container, a visitor walks and another runs while water drips from hoses above. Once they're wet, they go around the corner and, because the water contains traces of fluorescent dye, they can see just how many drops hit them as they stand in front of a black light.

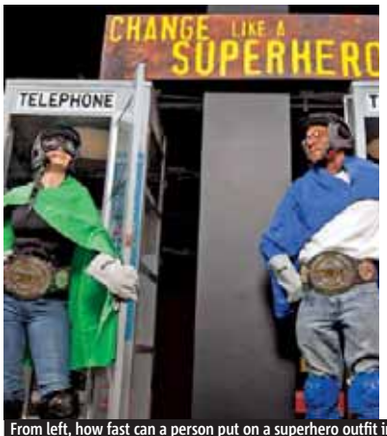
After determining which one of them is wetter, the participants press either the run or walk button. The results will be stored for now and revealed when the show leaves in September.

There is another exhibit for anyone who's wondered if a blind Al Pacino really could have navigated a car through the streets of New York in Scent of a Woman based on the directions given by a terrified Chris O'Donnell from the passenger seat. With the help of video-arcade style equipment, visitors can see if they do as well as Pacino or better than Hyneman and Savage did on the show.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jamie Hyneman, left, and Adam Savage, stars of Mythbusters, stand outside the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. J.B. SPECTOR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





From left, how fast can a person put on a superhero outfit in a phone booth? The Mythbusters open the exhibit in Chicago last week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 LIFE

Travel in brief

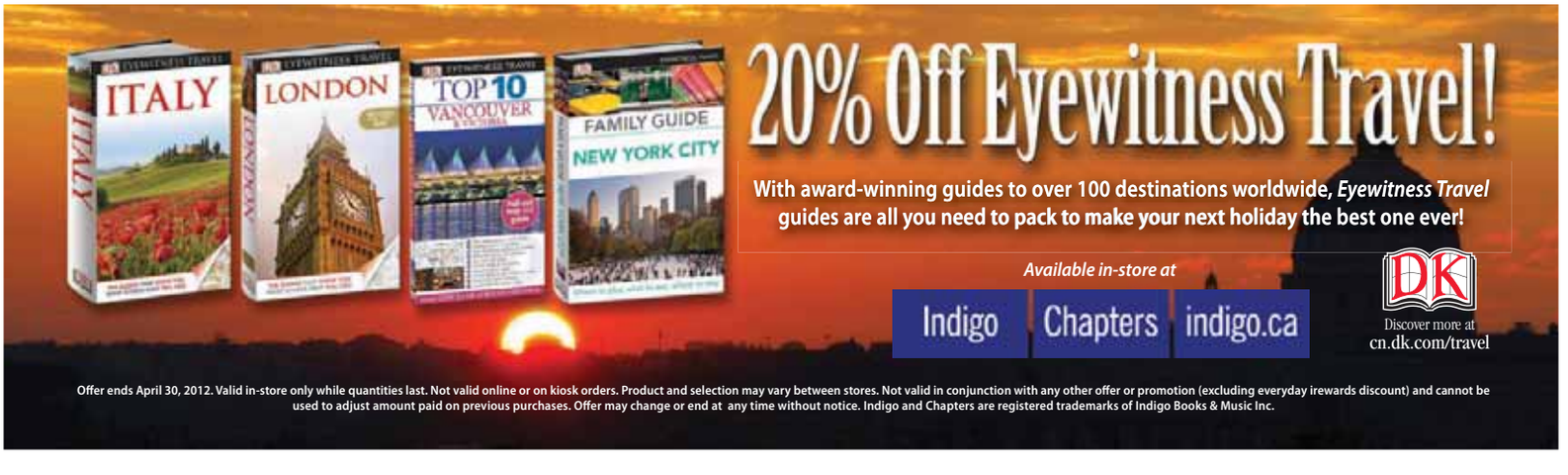
No free music at festival

After three years of financial losses, the showcase summer festival Taste of Chicago will start charging music fans if they want concert seats. Taste of Chicago performances at the 3,000-seat Petrillo Music Shell in Grant Park had been free, but the city wants to charge $25 a ticket this year, Mayor Rahm Emanuel said Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



On the Web

Edgar Degas' Impressionism stripped bare in Paris: forget dancers, this time its nudes



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The bite-sized San Francisco

Food trucks are a big deal in San Francisco, so we got Kate McEachern, founder of local cupcake truck Cupkates, to talk us through her city's hot spots

METRO WORLD NEWS



First time?

For those that usually ignore the clichéd recommendations in travel guides, play the tourist for once. San Francisco has some amazing attractions and you don't want to miss them. Your first stop should be Fort Point. Its vantage point overlooking Golden Gate Bridge offers amazing views.

Been there before?

Once you've seen all of the staple tourist spots, I'd recommend a trip to Golden Gate Park (golden-gate-park.com). Go for tea at the Japanese Tea House and Garden or simply walk around the gardens. The California Academy of Sciences (calacademy.org), one of the world's largest natural history museums, is a fun daytime outing whether you're with family or friends. I always head straight to the living roof. Designed by architect Renzo Piano, the roof consists of undulating green hillocks and 1.7 million native plants, mimicking the city's topography.



Go out

If you want a chilled but fun Friday night out then head over to the De Young Museum (deyoung.famsf.org). It stays open late, keeping people entertained with the bar and live music. Bubble Lounge champagne bar (bubblelounge.com) is perfect for a girls' night out. Although, by no means does this mean boys aren't allowed to join the party.



Stay in

For those on a budget, Hotel des Arts, located in the French Quarter, is an eclectic boutique close to Union Square, perfect if you had a day of shopping planned (sfhotel-desarts.com). If you have a bit more to spend, in the mid-range price is Hotel Del Sol. This is a joyful-kid friendly place to stay.



Eat

Some of the city's best food comes from a truck. Off the Grid (offthegridsf.com) is a bustling roving market with gourmet food trucks selling anything from my cupcakes to 'eat curbside's' deep fried Mac n Cheese.

On Friday nights, the Fort Mason market has a bar and music, making it a really great (and super cheap!) way to spend the evening. Nick's Crispy Tacos (at 1500 Broadway) makes the most amazing fried fish pescado tacos (ask for them made "Nick's Way") and carnitas (braised pork) in town.

If you're craving pizza, there's no other place than Una Pizza Napoletana (unapizza.com/sf). The place is small and the owner Anthony Mangieri makes pizza to order using an oven placed in the middle of the dining room.

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Start spring off on a sweet note with treats for the big & little kids

Chocolate Mango Mousse. This easy, do-ahead dessert is a great way to incorporate chocolate without over indulging

Because this is a chilled dessert, you can make it ahead of time and not worry about things coming out of the oven at the right time when you're busy trying to impress those picky dinner guests.

To make it into a restaurant-worthy dish, spoon the Chocolate Mango Mousse into parfait glasses and top with fresh berries.

The combination of chocolate and fruit creates an ideal balance for those who want a more grown-up dessert.

Ingredients

4 portions
Start to finish: 30 minutes, plus chilling

- 250 ml (1 cup) frozen mango chunks, thawed
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) homogenized milk
- 1 whole egg, plus 1 yolk
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) cornstarch
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) milk chocolate bits
- 250 ml (1 cup) heavy cream

1 Fill a medium bowl with ice.

2 In a blender, combine the thawed mango chunks, sugar, milk, whole egg and yolk, and cornstarch. Purée until completely it is smooth.

3 Pour the mixture into a small saucepan over medium heat. Whisking constantly, heat the mixture until it thickens and comes to a boil. Remove from heat and add the milk chocolate bits. Stir until the chocolate is melted and thoroughly incorporated.

4 Place the saucepan in a bowl of ice; ensure that none of the ice gets into the saucepan. Whisk the mixture until it is completely cooled and smooth.

5 In a large bowl, place the heavy cream. Use an electric mixer to beat it until medium peaks form, 3 to 5 minutes.

6 Add half of the beaten cream to the milk chocolate-mango mixture and fold together to incorporate. Add remaining cream and fold again to incorporate.

7 Transfer the Chocolate Mango Mousse to 4 individual serving dishes and refrigerate until you are ready to serve it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Chocolate Mango Mousse

The chocolate flavours aren't overpowering. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Chocolate Seduction

Chocolate and vodka combine to make a romantic cocktail that is pure magic.

Seduce your lover or your favourite foodie with this special drink.

1 Combine vodka, coffee, nut and chocolate liqueurs in a shaker with ice. Shake and strain into two cocktail glasses. Top with chocolate. Makes 2 servings.

- 2 oz vodka
- 1 oz coffee liqueur
- 1 oz nut liqueur (such as Frangelico or Amaretto)
- 1 oz chocolate liqueur
- Grated bittersweet chocolate



RECIPE AND PHOTO: ICEBERG VODKA

Caramelized apples star in frozen dessert



This recipe serves eight. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

A creamy-sweet combination of caramelized apples and vanilla frozen yogurt topped with crunchy granola offers the perfect combination of ingredients.

Top this frozen treat with fresh whipped cream and a sprinkle of cinnamon for a truly decadent dessert.

1 In a large bowl, toss apples with lemon juice; set aside.

2 In a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat, melt butter. Add sugar and stir until it has completely dissolved and is dark amber in colour. Add apples with their juices and reduce heat to low.

3 Cook, stirring often, about 10 minutes or until apples are softened. Stir in cream and vanilla; transfer to a large bowl. Let cool, cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour or until chilled and thickened. (Keep it refrigerated for up to 2 days.)

4 To assemble: For each serving, place 2 caramelized apples wedges in a sundae glass. Top with a scoop of frozen yogurt, 2 caramelized apple wedges and some granola. Repeat frozen yogurt, apple and granola layers.

5 Top with additional whipped cream and a sprinkle of cinnamon, if desired.

ONTARIO APPLE GROWERS, ONAPPLES.COM/ THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR, AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients

- 3 apples (McIntosh or Spy), peeled cored and each cut into 12 wedges
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) lemon juice
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) butter
- 500 ml (2 cups) granulate sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) 35% whipping cream
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) vanilla
- 1.5 L (6 cups) vanilla frozen yogurt or vanilla ice cream
- 250 ml (1 cup) crunchy granola

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Nation-to-nation navigation: Interviews across the pond

East to West. Keep cultural differences in mind during a job interview abroad

LIN ABDUL RAHMAN
Talentegg.ca



Canadian employers often value confidence in a potential hire. ISTOCK

Do you remember the AT&T commercial where a man insults his Chinese business associate when he mispronounces the associate's name?

The commercial highlights the importance of clarity and precision in communication, and it also underscores the cultural nuances that we encounter at our increasingly global workplaces. These situations may seem funny in retrospect, but if they're not handled properly they may have serious consequences not only for the employee but for the company as well.

And these cultural distinctions extend far beyond the spoken language. I've had work experience in several culturally distinct countries and I can safely say the attitudes employers expect to see in a candidate also vary greatly from one country to another.

In Malaysia — a country heavily influenced by its Eastern morals and values — modesty, respect and courtesy are some of the characteristics candidates are expected to possess and display. This is not to say that employers in Western countries do not appreciate such values — quite the contrary.

A world of difference

"In Malaysia — a country heavily influenced by its Eastern morals and values — modesty, respect and courtesy are some of the characteristics candidates are expected to possess and display."

Lin Abdul Rahman, student at Laurier Brantford

However, in Malaysian culture, reverence and respect for elders, and by extension those higher up in the social hierarchy, are expected virtues in any individual. These qualities are therefore crucial in dealing with clients and associates.

As a result, candidates are expected to demonstrate these values during the interview process at great lengths, and then some.

Along the same vein, candidates are also expected to acknowledge an organization's inherent hierarchy, be it a formal or informal one. Of course, it goes without saying that falling in line is expected in any company anywhere on the globe. As the saying goes, 'You have to go along in order to get along.'

However, in Malaysia, it's crucial that a candidate displays a certain readiness, or even an eagerness, to fit into the existing pecking order. It might seem superficial or perhaps somewhat trivial, but it's crucial nonetheless as it is seen as a manifestation of the candidate's respect toward his or her superiors.

From the job interviews I've had in Australia and Canada — not all of them successful, naturally — I've found that ambition, confidence and being proactive are highly regarded by employers. These qualities are often the determining factors for whether an interview is successful or not.

Here in Canada, candidates are expected to possess high self esteem and feel confident about 'selling' themselves to employers. This is perhaps the greatest distinction between the work cultures in Canada and Malaysia.Numerous other facets of a culture come into play in determining on whether or not a candidate has had a successful interview and it is impossible to list them all.

Suffice it to say that it is good to develop a feel for the subtleties that exist within any given culture in order to gage what an employer might expect to see in a candidate.

LIN ABDUL RAHMAN IS A JOURNALISM STUDENT WITH A MINOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS AT LAURIER BRANTFORD. SHE IS ORIGINALLY FROM MALAYSIA AND NOW CALLS CANADA HOME. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

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Origins

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ALL DATA COURTESY OF STATISTICS CANADA

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4 SPORTS



Quoted

"It's cool to be mentioned with the top players in the league. I'm focused on the playoffs, but those (awards nominations) are in the back of my mind."

Mooseheads rookie Nathan MacKinnon on being nominated for three QMJHL awards on Tuesday: the RDS Cup for rookie of the year, the Michel Bergeron Trophy for offensive rookie of the year, and the Paul Dumont Trophy for personality of the year. Mooseheads goaltender Zach Fucale is also up for the RDS Cup and was nominated for defensive rookie of the year, while winger Martin Frk is one of three finalists for the Mike Bossy Trophy as top professional prospect. Lower Sackville's Ben Duffy (sportsman of the year) of the P.E.I. Rocket and Cole Harbour's Stephen MacAulay (best defensive forward) of the Saint John Sea Dogs were also recognized with nominations. METRO



Rainmen guard Taliek Brown soars through the air for a layup as two Lightning defenders look on Monday night. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Rainmen banking on boost from fans

NBL. Team's season on the line with Lightning poised to sweep NBL Canada championship series



MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

A big, loud crowd would be just what the doctor ordered for the ailing and weary Halifax Rainmen.

The Rainmen host the biggest game in the franchise's five-year history on Wednesday night at 7 p.m., with the London Lightning on the verge of a sweep in the best-of-five National Basketball League of Canada championship series.

It will be Halifax's fifth game in seven days, with its so-called "off-days" occupied with air travel.

"We need the place packed," said Rainmen owner Andre Levingston. "Our guys need the energy to feed off of. When the crowd is behind you and cheering, you do things that you might not normally do. It rejuvenates you. You forget that you're tired."

The Rainmen drew an unofficial league-best attendance of 3,260 per game at the Metro Centre this season and have attracted roughly that many fans each season since 2010. But in four playoff games — one in 2010, another in 2011, and two last week — they've only averaged around 2,200.

Eight times in franchise history Rainmen crowds have surpassed 4,000, topping out at 4,966 back in 2010.

Levingston calls Wednesday's game the biggest in franchise history and hopes the crowd is the biggest, too.

"We need it," Levingston said. "The guys' bodies are broke down, they're tired, naturally, from playing so many games in a short period of time, and the crowd is the sixth man. We're anticipating a huge crowd. We hope everybody comes out and supports us."

London hasn't lost back-to-back games all season and has beaten Halifax in seven-of-eight meetings. On the flip side, the Rainmen have a 17-3 home record, including a dominating 26-point blowout of London on Feb. 19.

"We're looking forward to playing at home," Levingston said. "It ain't going to be easy playing us in our gym. This series is not over."

News and notes



Gabe Freeman METRO FILE

Lightning forward and league MVP Gabe Freeman rubbed the Rainmen the wrong way when he did some showboating in Monday's game, standing on the scorers' table in the fourth quarter to celebrate.

- "They've been arrogant all year, talking all year, and they've backed it up to this point," Rainmen owner Andre Levingston said. "But we gonna see them in 'The 'Fax' and they gonna have to repeat that in our building."
- Rainmen guard Chris Hagan rolled his ankle on Monday, while forward Darnell Hugee took an elbow to the mouth and lost a tooth. Both continued to play, and although Hagan was hobbling badly at times, neither is expected to miss Wednesday's game. METRO

Mooseheads



Mooseheads winger Martin Frk. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

Key pair could return for Game 1

The Halifax Mooseheads are optimistic both Martin Frk and Sawyer Hannay will be in the lineup when they open the QMJHL playoffs on Friday.

Frk, a high-scoring winger who missed Sunday's regular-season finale with what the Mooseheads will only describe as an "upper-body injury," skated at practice on Tuesday but did not participate in contact drills.

It should be noted Frk missed the first three months of the season with a concussion, but he's been one of the team's most productive players — with 28 points in his past 25 games — in the new year.

"It was no-contact but he's doing fine," said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme. "It's a matter of being careful and we have a lot of battles (in practice), 2-on-2s and stuff like that. He'll probably do contact on Wednesday. We're pretty confident he'll play Friday."

Hannay, a veteran stalwart on defence, hasn't played since Feb. 8 because of a concussion but took part in full Mooseheads practice on Tuesday.

His return, coupled with that of Steve Gillard last week, could make the Mooseheads' defence corps as strong as it's been all season. Both players are in their third QMJHL seasons.

"If (Hannay can play), we can move Travis Randell back up front and we can roll six Ds with more experience," Ducharme said. "It gives us more experience going into the playoffs and that's nice to have."

The sixth-seeded Mooseheads host the 11th-seeded Moncton Wildcats for Games 1 and 2 of the QMJHL first round on Friday and Saturday at the Metro Centre.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

Exclusively online

For more Mooseheads coverage, follow @metroqfiles on Twitter or visit metronews.ca/qfiles.

NFL. Broncos' deal with Manning all about now

John Elway flashed that mile-wide grin and turned the microphone over to his new quarterback, Peyton Manning.

Talk about a powerful pair.

Introducing Manning as the newest Denver Bronco on Tuesday, the two Super Bowl winners each talked about hoisting another Lombardi Trophy, this time together. And soon.

"I realize I don't have 14 years left, by any means," Manning said. "This isn't something where I'm just building a foundation to do something in two years or three years. This is a 'now' situation. We're going to do whatever we can to win right now. That's all I'm thinking about right now."

Just so long as Manning's surgically repaired neck goes along with the plan.

"I believe that he's got a lot of great football left in him," Elway said of his new QB. And if that's true, the Broncos will wind up paying him $96 million US over five years under his new deal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tebow time ticking away?

Executive John Elway and coach John Fox wouldn't come out and say it, but the Tim Tebow era in Denver looks to be all but over.

- Elway said he's exploring all his options for Tebow, the popular QB who led the Broncos to the playoffs last season.

NFL

Ward decides to call it a career

Longtime Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Hines Ward retired on Tuesday, three weeks after he was released by the team in a salary-cap manoeuver.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Pettitte returns to mound for Yanks

Andy Pettitte said his arm felt great Tuesday after throwing his first bullpen session with the New York Yankees since ending his brief retirement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sid assisting in the surge



Cole Harbour native Sidney Crosby of the Penguins fends off Winnipeg's Antti Miettinen Tuesday night in Pittsburgh. JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

NHL. Crosby makes it nine points in four games since returning to Pens from injury

Sidney Crosby isn't scoring goals. The way he is setting up his teammates, it hardly matters.

The Pittsburgh captain dished out four assists in his first home game in over three months, James Neal recorded his second NHL hat trick, and the Penguins crushed the Winnipeg Jets 8-4 on Tuesday night.

"You give them space and they eat you up," Winnipeg coach Claude Noel said. "That's what they did."

Repeatedly.

Evgeni Malkin added two goals — including the 200th of his NHL career — and added three assists to lift his point total to an NHL-leading 93. Pittsburgh bounced back from an overtime loss in Philadelphia on Sunday, which ended an 11-game winning streak, and pulled within a point of the Eastern Conference-leading New York Rangers.

"There were some nice hockey plays out there," Pittsburgh coach Dan Bylsma said. "There's some of that tape you see in some highlight videos."

Having two of the best players on the planet playing alongside each other for stretches certainly helps.

Crosby fed linemate Tyler Kennedy for a pair of goals and helped set up power-play tallies by Neal and Malkin.

Not bad for a guy who has played only 12 games in 14 months.

"There are still areas where I need to get sharper," said Crosby, who had over 19 minutes of ice time. "But everyone is playing so well ... (it) makes it easier for anyone coming back."

Bryan Little scored twice for the Jets. Ondrej Pavelec was pulled in the second after allowing five Penguins goals on 24 shots. The Jets remained four points behind eighth-place Washington in the East.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Missing the mesh

11

Sidney Crosby hasn't scored since his debut vs. the Islanders Nov. 21. The current 11-game goal drought is the longest of his career.





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Other lease options available. ■0% purchase financing offered on approved credit by TD Financing for 60 months on new or demonstrator 2012 Chevrolet Orlando, for 72 months on 2012 Chevrolet Sonic and Cruze, for and by Ally Credit for 72 months on 2012 Chevrolet Equinox. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $10,000 at 0% APR, the monthly payment is $208.33 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Offer is unconditionally interest-free. Freight ($1,495), license, insurance, registration, applicable taxes and fees not included. ▼Chevrolet Equinox/Cruze/Orlando/Sonic fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2012 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. 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Ready for summer driving?



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Review. It carries half as many people as the convertible, yet costs a bit more – a fair price to pay for a little extra sporting flair

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Break out the SPF 50 and the Ray-Ban sunglasses because the Mini Cooper Roadster just arrived.

The two-seat convertible — a first for the Mini brand and a companion to the recently launched Coupe — adds some visual spice to the Mini's broadening model lineup that already includes a four-passenger drop-top. Admittedly, it seems a bit odd that BMW-owned Mini would now have two not-so-distinct convertibles that are constructed off the same platform and share the same mechanical bits. Furthermore, the two-seat Roadster lists for only $300 less than the standard four-place convertible.

Ah, but there's a point that's being overlooked. The Roadster swaps out the rear bench that isn't particularly roomy in the first place for an actual trunk (another Mini first). We're not talking cavernous space here by any means (it has a bit less volume than the Coupe's trunk) but it's enough to store a few decent-sized travel bags or a set or two of golf clubs regardless of whether the top is up or down.

The Roadster's styling is far less controversial than that of the helmet-headed Coupe and it looks better with the roof up than the existing Mini convertible. Combined with a windshield that has been tilted back an additional 13 degrees, the Roadster is one of the best looking of the bunch.

The hair-drying Roadster deserves its sports-car appellation. And, with pricing that ranges from $30,500 to $41,500, consider it an alternative to the league-leading Mazda Miata and an extra-fun way to celebrate the summer season.

Mini Cooper Roadster

- **Type:** Two-door, front-wheel-drive two-seat convertible
- **Engines (hp):** 1.6-litre DOHC I4 (121); 1.6-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (181-208)
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy): 7.2/4.9 (base 1.6)
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $25,000

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Second Gear.
2002 to 2006 Suzuki Aerio Wagon

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

The Suzuki Aerio Wagon was a machine that tackled a plethora of tasks exceptionally well — while earning itself a reputation for its high value proposition and access to cheap All Wheel Drive (AWD).

Retired to clear way for the Suzuki SX4 after 2006, the Aerio was aimed at active, value-minded shoppers after a vehicle with plenty of flexibility and space.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Engine

Power came from four cylinder engines — namely a two-litre, 141 horsepower unit or a 2.3-litre unit with 155. The latter engine was fitted to 2004 and later Aerio models.

What Owners Like

Owners love the surprisingly upscale and high quality feel imparted by the little wagon, and many say their machines are holding up well over the years. All Wheel Drive traction on slippery roads is also highly rated.

What Owners Dislike

Complaints typically centre around quirky styling and a noisy ride at speed.

Common Issues

Have the Aerio's brake system inspected for pad and rotor condition, as many owners say the Aerio wears out braking components at a faster-than-expected rate.

The two-litre engine may emit some lifter noise for a few seconds after startup, though if the sound is persistent, the engine may require expensive replacement lifters. Note that this problem seems focused on 2002 and 2003 models.

Be sure to check out the keyless access system too, as many owners report its failure over time. Finally, budget for a full fluid change and tune-up if you're unsure of the service history of the model you're considering.

Verdict

Common, significant or systematic problems seem to be few and far between. Aerio appears an adequately safe bet for the shopper after some uniqueness, utility, and an inexpensive AWD system.

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GVWR. ***Based on Ford Motor Company Canada, Limited's estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2012 F-150 2WD 3.7L V6 SFT 6-Speed Automatic with Tow Package (4,242 kg) and 2012 F-150 2WD 5.0L V8 SFT 6-Speed Automatic with Tow Package (4,536 kg) versus competitive 2011 half-ton pickup trucks. Class is Full-Size Pickups over 8,500 lbs. GVWR. ^Based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales report, December 2011. ©2012 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

Bring back that new-car smell

Spring cleaning. Winter driving takes a toll on your car, but these tips can help you remove damaging salt and funky smells

JON TATTRIE
For Metro

While you only get one chance to enjoy that new-car smell in your vehicle, a good spring cleaning can at least remove the funky, six-months-of-winter stench.

Peter Malony, owner of Rubber Duck Car Wash in Nova Scotia, says the most important task is to get rid of the salt. Winter driving in Canada means your tires kick up vast amounts of salt pebbles and crushed salt dust that cakes you vehicle. Left alone, it can start to rust your car.

"You can't just run it through a carwash and have it all go away. It takes a while," he says. "Hand washing in the spring is the best bet."

A wash in your driveway with the garden hose is unlikely to dislodge the winter grime. A drive-through wash that cleans the undercarriage will remove a lot of it, but won't get to the mess in the door sills and under the hood.

Go to a professional car wash and either pay someone to give your vehicle a thorough clean, or use their self-service facility with professional equipment.

"You need to clean all the nooks and crannies with a high-pressure rinse," Malony says. "Get it all cleaned out from underneath the car, around the wheel wells, around the door jam and under the engine hood," he says.

Salt can sneak inside your car via the floor mats. Take them out, beat them clean and vacuum them.

"A lot of our customers will take out their carpet mats, pressure wash them and let them dry," Malony says. "It's a great way to clean your mats. The downside is it takes a while to dry."

Pick a sunny day to speed that part along.

Wipe down the hard parts of the interior. If you want a top-notch job, many car washes have high-power and flexible vacuum cleaners and even professional carpet shampooers on staff.

Tips

- Lift the engine hood and spray the inside with a high-pressure hose.
- Blast the wheel wells and undercarriage to remove packed-in salt dust.
- Open the car doors and hood and wipe all of the sills clean.
- Your car may have leather, plastic and carpet in it — check your cleaning product to make sure it works on the appropriate surface.



Spring is the perfect time to give your a vehicle a thorough cleaning. JUPITERIMAGES/PHOTOS.COM/THINKSTOCK

How to stay safe on the road even after the snow melts



Spring driving risks include hydroplaning and black ice.
JUPITERIMAGES/PHOTOS.COM/THINKSTOCK

With spring in the air, it may be tempting to think it's easy driving, at least for a few months.

"In the winter people are a bit more careful and cautious," says Tom Furlong, the Nova Scotia regional director for Young Drivers of Canada. "After the snow melts, everybody goes, 'Ah, I don't have to be as careful now.'"

As a result, people get complacent. One of the big spring driving risks is hydroplaning. This occurs when a layer of water develops between a vehicle's tires and the road surface, thereby leading to loss of traction.

Furlong says two of the factors in preventing hydroplaning are the depth of the tire tread and tire pressure.

"You have to make sure your tires have lots of tread and your tire pressure is up," he says.

Most people change their winter tires to summer ones in the spring, and he recommends ensuring the summer tires have adequate tread.

People should also keep an eye on their tire pressure and use a gauge — they only cost around $10 — to make sure the tires are properly inflated.

Speed is another factor in preventing hydroplaning. Not surprisingly, slower is better.

If people find themselves hydroplaning, the key is not to panic.

"If you do start to hydroplane, you have to slow down smoothly and gradually, and then your tires will start to come down through the water and then finally make contact with the pavement," says Furlong.

The best way of doing this is to ease your foot off the gas to naturally slow the car down.

Bill White, a driving training instructor since 1975, says another spring driving concern is potential black ice.

"People can get a little bit careless, especially in the mornings where there could be freezing temperatures and black ice," says the classroom instructor with McKenna's Defensive Driving.

"Don't be too swayed by the fact later on in the day the temperature is going to be five or six or 10 degrees. There still has to be that caution in the morning."

RICHARD WOODBURY/FOR METRO

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Get your vehicle in tip-top shape for spring with these pro tune-up tips

Car maintenance. Undo the wear and tear of the winter driving season with a spring tune up

JON TATTRIE
For Metro

As the last of the snow melts from Canadian roads, most drivers get ready to switch their winter tires for the all-seasons. That's just the first step toward giving your car a spring tune up.

Terry Peck, fixed operations manager at Edmonton's Koch Ford Lincoln, says it's not just about ensuring the car is safe and reliable, but also making sure the entire driving experience is a good one.

"Ever been stuck out of town on a weekend, broken down? It is not fun," he says.

Peck provides a spring tune-up check list:

- Change oil and filter
- Lubricate door locks, hinges and weather strips
- Remove snow tires

It's also a good time to see what maintenance issues are due, such as replacing fluids for power steering, transmission, brakes and the cooling system, or servicing the air-conditioning system, inspecting the trailer wiring and changing the cabin air filter.

Then, give your car a thorough exterior inspection. "Inspect the windshield for cracks and chips," Peck suggests. "Address any new noises or concerns that have developed over the winter driving season, such as pulling, rattles, vibrations or inoperative items."

Every car should have a roadside emergency kit. Make sure flashlight batteries still work and replace anything you used over the winter.

Gary Howard of CAA agrees the best approach is to have a complete check by a licensed technician. "Through the winter, your car goes through a lot of wear and tear," he says from his office in Saint John, N.B. "We often see some damage done to exhaust systems (due to) going through snow as well as the crazy amount of potholes we have around in the spring."

Keep an eye on your tire pressure, as fluctuating temperatures can change it. That's not the only temperature issue. "Sometimes if your gas tank is getting near low or empty, you get condensation because of the changes in temperature. Try and keep your tank more full rather than less full through the spring," Howard says.

Experts recommend waiting until April to change your tires. Check your local forecast and be prepared to take the bus if you get a spring snowstorm. Have your mechanic change, balance and align the tires.

"This is where the rubber hits the road," jokes Howard. "Until the roads settle down in terms of the heaves and the holes, you might need to have a second look at alignment and balancing as you get into summer."



Maintenance can prevent a little problem from becoming a big one.
ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Cost savings

- Seasonal check-ups for your vehicle can seem costly, but experts say it is usually money you get back in the long term.
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Keep damage from potholes at bay with good driving habits

Potholes. They're impossible to avoid, but you can lessen the damage they inflict on your vehicle

RICHARD WOODBURY
For Metro

It's said the only certainties in life are death and taxes, but some might argue potholes belong on that list as well.

Halifax is particularly prone to potholes because of its freeze-thaw winter climate, and despite drivers' best intentions they will come into contact with a pothole.

"Preventing it is pretty much impossible other than avoiding hitting them (in the first place)," says Tim Manuel, the director of fixed operations at O'Regan's Automotive Group. "There's not a whole lot you can do prevention-wise."

Reporting a pothole

- **People looking to report a pothole found on HRM streets can call 490-4000 or fill out an online form at bit.ly/xfpWOS.** HRM also has a webpage devoted to all things pothole-related at halifax.ca/Works/potholes.html.

Potholes can cause damage in several different ways.

"It could range from simply damaging the steel belts in the tire," says Mike Velemirovich, the dealer principal at Hillcrest Volkswagen. "They could also dent the rim, the wheel the tire sits on. In some cases, we've seen suspension parts damaged, things like tie rods, ball joints."

Hitting a pothole can also whack a vehicle's alignment off, which can lead tires to wear unevenly.

"Often when you have a pothole that is bad enough to damage one of these suspension parts, then it does throw off the alignment and dents the wheel and ruins the tire, so there can easily be $1,000 in damage," says Velemirovich.

He recommends drivers put more distance between themselves and the vehicle in front of them so they are better able to see the road (and the potholes that lie ahead).

With rainy spring weather, it makes it more difficult to spot potholes. "It could look like a puddle, when it is in fact the pothole from hell," says Velemirovich.

Given that avoiding potholes altogether is impossible, driving slower could help lessen the damage they inflict on one's vehicle. Unfortunately, that isn't even a foolproof strategy. "If you slow down, sometimes if it's a deeper hole, you may go further in it," says Manuel.



Hitting a pothole can whack a vehicle's alignment off. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK



Car care tips for spring driving

Top 10 tips. Regular maintenance can help your car keeps its value — and keep you safe on the road

Owning a car requires regular maintenance to keep its value and ensure your safety. To make sure you have a winning hand when it comes to caring for your vehicle, here are 10 easy tips:

1. Never use dish soap to wash your car. It will aggravate existing scratches or cause new ones.

2. Rinse your car before washing to remove grit particles, which could scratch paintwork as you wash.

3. Use a water blade, not a towel, to remove most of the water, followed by a synthetic chamois to remove the excess.

4. Wax your car twice a year to protect its paint and help maintain its value.

5. Check for UV damage on your headlights. If yellowed or cloudy, a product like Quixx Headlight Restoration Kit can restore them to gain up to four seconds of reaction time.

6. Remove bird droppings as soon as possible. Soak a cloth in hot water and place it over the area for five minutes, then wipe away with a microfibre cloth.

7. Park indoors or in the shade as much as possible to protect your car's paint from damaging UV rays.

8. Check tire tread for wear.

9. Replace wiper blades every six to 12 months as they become cracked, brittle and worn due to ozone, contaminants and exposure to sunlight.

10. Use the PSI (pounds per square inch) recommendation on the door jam of your car, instead of the one on your tires to keep them properly inflated. NEWS CANADA



Stay safe by keeping your tires properly inflated. NEWS CANADA



Scratches. Canadian summers don't have to wreak havoc on your car

For auto enthusiasts, the scratches you get from hiking in the woods or slipping on rocks at the cottage are minor. The worst summer scratches are the ones you get on your car every time you load in (or on) the canoe, the camping gear, the bikes — or even just the suitcases.

And cars are only part of the summer scratch story. Imagine what your boat goes through every summer? The wear and tear on cluster gauges, plastic handles and plastic chrome trims takes away from the beauty and value of your boat.

And those scratched windows are unsightly and can even be dangerous if they reduce your visibility.

No matter your sport, our active Canadian summers can wreak havoc on your paint and acrylic finishes. Here are some tips from the experts:

1. Every car and boat will get scratched, no matter how hard you try to avoid it.

2. The most common way to scratch your car is by doing it yourself with cheap soaps or detergents that don't properly lift dirt.

3. Professional repair could cost anywhere from $200-$1,200 or more.

4. Scratches will instantly devalue your vehicle or boat, which will cause you to lose money on the future sale (or a lease return of a car).

5. Most scratch removers just cover up or temporarily clean scratches and do not work on scratches deep enough to feel with your fingernail.

Scratch solutions

Ugly scratches are unavoidable over time, but that doesn't mean you have to live with them. Expert detailers agree that by following a few easy steps, you can minimize scratches and easily fix the ones you already have.

Examine the paint surface frequently, and use only high-quality products. Avoid using dish soap, which can aggravate and cause scratches.

For more information, visit quixx-usa.com.

NEWS CANADA



Scratches can be caused when loading camping gear, bikes and other sporting equipment into the car (or boat). NEWS CANADA

Red light, green light? Your cellphone could know the answer

Driving Force. Researchers at MIT working on system that could save drivers 20 per cent of fuel

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

Red lights are crucial for traffic safety, but they can be hard on your gasoline consumption. Every time you stop for a red light, you use more fuel when idling and getting started again.

Fuel-efficient drivers will try to regulate their speed so they reach the lights as they turn green, but that's not always easy to do. Instead, a project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) is using cellphone technology to figure out just when your next light is going to change.

Since many people dock their smartphones on the dash for navigation, the researchers used them to devise a system called SignalGuru.

The cellphone cameras, which point at the street when the screen is facing the driver, photograph traffic lights as the vehicle approaches them.

"The camera is used to study the pattern of the traffic signal," says Emmanouil Koukoumidis, visiting researcher at MIT.

"The information is downloaded from the mobile phones of drivers who have been through the intersection. Then we gather and process it, and we do what is called 'machine learning.'"

The collaborative system amasses information about each intersection, using maps and GPS to determine when the vehicle is approaching the traffic light. It then turns on the camera and captures video frames, determining exactly when the light changes from red to green.

Using this information, along with pictures taken previously, SignalGuru "studies the past" to determine the exact time the light will turn green in the future.

"It will know that the intersection is red but it will turn green in 30 seconds, so if you drive at 40 km/h instead of 45 or 50, by the time you hit the intersection it will be green so you can cruise through without stopping," Koukoumidis says.

Using Boston as a model, the researchers calculated that drivers could save 20 per cent of fuel with the system.

The system is currently only a research prototype, although Koukoumidis has been contacted by commercial truck drivers interested in it, since large trucks use equally large amounts of fuel moving away from a stop.

The database could also potentially capture and process other important information such as gas station prices, the location of city buses, or the availability of parking spots.

SignalGuru

- In addition to prompting for specific speeds to reach green lights, SignalGuru could potentially use routing software to send a driver down a side street rather than slow to a crawl in anticipation of a green light.
- Vehicles are responsible for 28 per cent of energy consumption and 32 per cent of CO2 emissions in the U.S., according to MIT research.



A look at SignalGuru in action. PATRICK GILLOOLY, MIT.

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CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise, call: 1 800 527-6767

HELP WANTED

General Help

Gratiae is seeking **5 sales reps** to sell skin care products at **Sunnyside Mall** & **Bedford Place Mall**. **$11.60/**hour Apply to: **6707696bedford@gmail.co**

Gratiae is seeking a **Retail Sales Supervisor** to sell skin care products at **Sunnyside Mall** & **Bedford Place Mall**. **$13.12/hr** apply to: **6707696bedford1@gmail.com**

metro

NEWSPAPER PROMOTERS
Monday-Friday MORNINGS
6:30 - 9:30am
10.25/hr

Locations available in downtown Halifax and Dartmouth. Great position for someone who likes mornings, students, or others who have commitments during the day.

Must be willing to work in all weather conditions.

Typically, people whom excel at this position have the following traits:

• Punctual • Honest • Reliable
• Driven • Enthusiastic

If you wish to apply, please forward your resume and references to:

april.doucette@metronews.ca

*only people who are selected for an interview will be contacted

Domestic Help

NEED LIVE IN CARE GIVER
for 2 girls 2 & 5
Security check and references needed
Bedford area **902-483-6628**

Education

Halifax Driving School
Defensive Driving Course $80
Start Date April 15th
Learn to Drive "Call for Details"
Start Dates **April 7th & April 21st**
25 hrs of Classroom Training
10 hrs of Driving
Please call **454-0672** to book your spot!

Business Opportunities

HEAD LICE removal services and franchise opportunities.
888-LICE-SQUAD
www.licesquad.com

Skilled and Technical Help

Ryder

Ryder is a fortune 500 company providing leading-edge supply chain and transportation management solutions worldwide.

We have the following opportunity in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Licensed Heavy Duty Mechanic
Rotating shifts days/ afternoons.

WE OFFER FULL BENEFITS, RRSP, PENSION PLAN AND TOP BENEFITS!

To apply, please email your resume to **join_ryder@ryder.com**

Please reference "T4 Dartmouth" for Licensed Tech in the subject line.

We thank all who apply; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Ryder is an equal opportunity employer.

MERCHANDISE

Merchandise for Sale

AIR HOCKEY TABLE Full size, hardly used 'night vision' air hockey table with all pucks and paddles. $150.
902 405 1653

GT SNOW RACER awesome toboggan with steering wheel and foot brakes. Used twice, great condition. $40.
902 405 1653

PS2 With controller, memory card and 3 games.
902 405 1653
$50

Place your ad in Metro classifieds
metroclassifieds.ca
1 800 527-6767

Merchandise Wanted

BUYING ANTIQUE & VINTAGE ITEMS
I buy all kinds of old/antique items. Jewelry, Toys, Silver, Art, China, Retro, Furs, Teak, Pine, Military etc.
Call for full list.
I make house calls.
902-443-6014 SAVE THIS AD!

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ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

Canadian Living 2012 BEST NEW PRODUCT Voted by Consumers – Research by BrandSpark –

ALL THE BEST NEW PRODUCTS OF 2012

VISIT metronews.ca/bestnewproducts and check out the Best New Products

SHARE your favourite products with friends and family

YOU COULD WIN a gift bag filled with the Best New Products of 2012



Canadian Living · Coup Pouce · Rexall Pharma Plus · Shaw Media · strategy · astral · newad · sample source inc. · metro

GARAGE/YARD SALES

Garage/Yard Sales

MEGA FLEA MARKET
$1 Admission
32 Glendale Ave.
Lower Sackville
Sundays 9AM-2PM
Sellers 7am
To book Tables Call
495-0206

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Business Personals

Live Nicotine Free
ZAP your cravings with laser therapy!
March Special
(Some conditions apply) 20yrs exp **452-3138**

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General Services

Separation & Uncontested Divorce
Inexpensive Service
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info@resiliencemediation.com
www.resiliencemediation.com

Landscapers/Gardening

Green Roots Landscaping
Lawn Care Starting at $30 per mow
Aeration/Lime/Fertilizer packages from $99
Contact us at 220-6480 or Scott@rdhfx.com

Public Auctions

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THE Local Boys MOVING
293-7614
FREE Boxes
FREE Estimates
Apartment Moves starting at **$89.95** per hr. **No Hidden FEES**
Local Deliveries Available
thelocalboysmoving.ca

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General Services

Public Auctions

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ADANAC CONSTRUCTION
Free Estimates! Carpentry, Siding, Windows, Doors, Decks and Floors. We build Sheds, Garages etc...
FULLY INSURED
Call Stephen at 469-0536

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ROOFS & REPAIRS Call Lafitte's Roofing 10-Year Warranty. Registered/Fully Insured/WCB. For all your roofing needs Call **209-1701** **WE WILL BEAT ANY QUOTE!**

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ASPHALT SERVICES
PAVE YOUR DRIVEWAY & SAVE!!
- We Build New Driveways
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- We Recoat Driveways
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471-7277
SERVING ALL OF HRM • www.PatchworksPaving.ca 4919640

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TIME TO TOSS IT
Debris removal, Estate clean-ups, small demos, unit clear-outs, basements, yards and construction - call 449-0232

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Miscellaneous

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metroclassifieds.ca
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Miscellaneous

HUNTING & FISHING GUIDE'S COURSE
May 19th to May 21st
We are now accepting applications for our guides course.
Even if you do not want to become a guide, this is a great way to gain some knowledge of how the guides and outfitters hunt and fish.
Please call for an application
Phone : (902)-671-2982 masterguide@seasidehighspeed.com

Community Events

Community Events

Multicultural Health & Wellness Fair For Immigrants & New Commers
Free admission March 23, 2012 9am to 3pm
St Andrew's Community Centre 3380 Barnstead Lane
- Over 45 Ehibits and workshops
- Health information and interpretation available in many languages
- Childcare provide Parking available

Contact: Hanaa Rashid 902-423-3607
Sponsored by:

Public Auctions

Public Auctions

ADESA®
HALIFAX
PUBLIC AUCTION
Over 150 Cars
Saturday March 24 • 10am
300 Sky Blvd., Enfield (Across from the Airport)
Viewings: Friday March 23, 1-4pm • Saturday 8-10am
902-873-4400 **www.adesapublicauctions.ca**



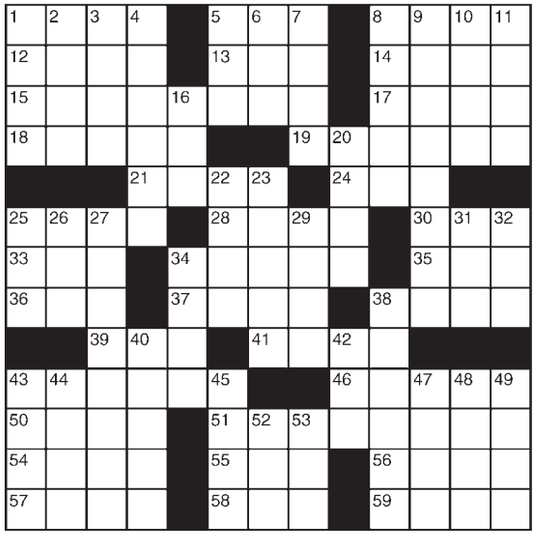
SELL YOUR STUFF FOR FREE!
Call 1-800-527-6767 to place your free ad!
Limit 2 per week • Size 1.535" X .542"

Brought to you by:
HARBOURVIEW VILLAGE MARKET
OPEN Saturday & Sunday 9-4
42 Canal St, Dartmouth
407•3323
harbourviewmarket.com

1 Occasional Chair with Ottoman White and rose color $250.00 902-407-9735	2 Shear Window Panels large enough for a picture window. Each measure 50" wide by 80" deep. Light beige in color Asking $40.00/both (902)435-1459	Bell and Howell AM/FM/Tape Stereo with Speakers $50 902-835-7687	Dining set with chairs buffet and hutch with wine rack. Light Birch. Paid $7000 Asking $3000 OBO 902-407-9735	**Modern wheel chair (Manual)** **Expandable** **$50** **(902)293-4280**	NEW WHIRLPOOL washer/dryer Apt size, 120v plug on dryer. Sink hose on washer included. **$600** delivery included. **902-877-5629**
17 ft LADDER **Extends to 24-26 ft** **$60.00** **902-477-8336**	Alumium Bathroom Chair for the tub Holds up to 250lbs $60 902-407-9735	BRAND NEW 12 Volt Battery For Golf Cart Comes with charger and case $100.00 **902-464-8532**	**INSIDE DOORS FOR SALE** Various sizes, great condition, White in color. Call for prices. **902-434-7686**	Motorola Digital Cable Box Model DCT 2000 Used 4 months asking $75.00 902-445-9333	**NIAGARA CYCLO-MASSAGE CHAIR** **Rollers and heats** **$500 was $1500** **902-835-7687**
2 end tables $75, Coffee Table $100, 2 lamps $50, Telephone table $100 Rocking Chair $100 902-876-7441	**Assorted Books, Clothing, Jewellery** No Reasonal Offer Refused **902-499-6873**	CAMPING GEAR 6 person tent, Colman Stove with grittle and burners, Sleeping pads Moving must sell Inquiries call or text 902-221-7020	**Ladies Danier Leather Jacket** Size 4, in Good contition Asking $80 **902-499-6873**	MOVING SALE EVERYTHING MUST GO! THIS SATURDAY 9-12pm 13B GARSHAN RD. DARTMOUTH	Sony Music System CD's Cassettes, Radio & Record Player with tall speakers $350.00 902-835-7687
2 Memberships to **PENN HILLS GOLF CLUB** and 1 year cart rental for 2 $3000 for all or $1000 each **902-883-2131**	BassRiver Rocking Chair $110.00 902-866-6050	Curio Cabinet & Wall Mirror Curio 42" W * 30" H Mirror 26"W *44"H Solid Wood, glass doors and shelves $450 obo 866-6050	Large 9 drawer dresser with 2 long mirrors $50.00 902-402-0194	**MUSTARD PICKLES AND PERSERVES** **Various prices** **902-758-2454**	Titanic 100th Anniversary 1912-2012 T-Shirts $10.00 each 902-435-5343

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Crossword



Across

1 Segment
5 Science room
8 Arizona city
12 On the briny
13 Id counterpart
14 Terrible guy?
15 Approve
17 Cheerful tune
18 Wheel radius
19 "— With Wolves"
21 Chantilly, e.g.
24 Understand
25 Initial stake
28 Burn soother
30 Altar affirmative
33 Scoundrel
34 Work dough
35 "— Town"
36 Greek H
37 Pruritus
38 Elbow counterpart
39 Cornfield cry
41 Melody
43 Riga's land
46 Lightweight wood
50 Sills solo
51 Meeting place
54 Lowly worker
55 "All the Things You —"
56 Muscat's land
57 Huff and puff
58 Louis —
59 "Unh-unh"

Down

1 Go by
2 Memo acronym
3 Gambling mecca
4 Stop the ballcarrier
5 Souvenir from 29-Down
6 Past
7 007
8 Pooh's creator
9 Bad news from the landlord
10 Post-Christmas event
11 Picnic intruders
16 Afternoon social
20 On in years
22 Lacks the skills to
23 Vote into office
25 Expert
26 Enthusiast
27 Force exerted by pulling
29 Aloha Tower site
31 Payable
32 Tramcar load
34 Fuzzy fruit
38 Michael, Diane or Buster
40 — -garde
42 Leno's network
43 Reindeer herder, maybe
44 Vicinity
45 Trojan War hero
47 Prom-night transport
48 Bathday cake?
49 Hathaway or Heche
52 Spoon-bender Geller
53 3-Down's st.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Monday's answer

J	A	C	K	■	A	P	R	■	G	R	E	W
A	L	O	E	■	R	O	E	■	I	O	T	A
B	E	N	E	F	I	T	S	■	G	O	U	T
■	■	■	P	E	A	■	P	R	O	F	I	T
S	H	R	E	W	■	C	O	O	L	■	■	■
T	O	U	R	■	B	E	N	D	O	V	E	R
A	N	I	■	S	E	N	S	E	■	O	R	E
B	E	N	Z	O	A	T	E	■	V	I	N	E
■	■	■	O	U	R	S	■	M	O	D	E	L
F	E	D	O	R	A	■	K	A	Y	■	■	■
O	V	U	M	■	B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N
P	I	K	E	■	L	E	E	■	G	A	T	E
S	L	E	D	■	E	K	E	■	E	R	S	T

Sudoku

	6		4		9			2
				2		1		7
				1		6	3	
	1						8	5
			8		7			
8	3						2	
	2	7		8				
9		1		4				
5			9		1		7	

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Monday's answer

2	6	4	5	3	9	1	8	7
7	5	1	6	8	2	4	3	9
9	8	3	7	4	1	5	2	6
1	7	9	3	6	8	2	4	5
5	3	6	2	7	4	9	1	8
4	2	8	1	9	5	7	6	3
6	1	2	8	5	7	3	9	4
3	9	5	4	2	6	8	7	1
8	4	7	9	1	3	6	5	2

Send a kiss

- **Love Birds.** Since you have come into my life I have been so happy. You have given me so much joy. Time spent with you is never boring, we laugh and carry on, we enjoy the same things, thank you for rescuing me. I hope to spend the rest of my days with you. From the blues man
- **AC.** put the two together and feel the electrical vibes racing through our veins. Feel the hope of what tomorrow will bring. Learn from yesterday's experiences. Once again, sending a good night kiss to the lover of my main dreams... heart aches by every beat...sit outside in the dark and enjoy the warm evening night after a thunder shower. FDC
- **MyPet.** Very difficult when in the scene where am reminded of you. Recieving hugs and kisses from you makes me miss you even more.I don't know how to handle it... From lost myself
- **Chad.** I wish i could let you know how much i like you, someday you will know. 2Shy2SayHi

Today
20°/10°
Mainly sunny
Thursday
22°/-1°
Sunny
Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
Check your local listings for details.
The Weather Network | HD
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Be careful what you ask for today because you won't be able to give it back if you change your mind.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You may find it hard to resist something that's bad for you today. But maybe it's OK to give in to your less disciplined side.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. A friend will have a profound effect on your opinions and beliefs today, but don't go changing your entire outlook on life.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. There is a danger you could make some illogical decisions over the next 24 hours. On the work front, especially, think carefully.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Not everyone sees the world through your eyes and you would do well to remember that fact today.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You may be worried about your money situation but that's OK because it will encourage you to search harder for a solution.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. A relationship is going through major changes at the moment. Don't make any hasty decisions. There's still time for you to decide.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You need to face up to reality and admit that something is wrong. It won't be as painful as you fear.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Changes in the wider world will lead to new opportunities for you personally. Be ready.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Someone you are close to will do something that takes you by surprise. Others think differently.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Things won't happen the way you expect them to over the next 24 hours but if you refuse to worry, everything will come right.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Life is not a zero sum game: There does not have to be a loser every time there is a winner.

SALLY BROMPTON



Caption Contest

"When it comes to doggie fashion, I think I'm it!"
Rick

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ GRAHAM HUGHES

Win!



You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Wednesday's Metro.

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7 Nights 4-Star All-inclusive
from $495
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Conditions apply. Package prices are per person, based on double occupancy for total length of stay unless otherwise stated. All-inclusive vacations include air. Prices are for select departure dates and are accurate and subject to availability at advertising deadline, errors and omissions excepted, and subject to change. Taxes & fees include transportation related fees, GST/HST and fuel supplements and are approximate and subject to change.

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NEWSSTAND
Now available for iPad, iPhone and iPod touch!

DOUBLE SAVINGS EVENT

ENDS MARCH 31st

O'REGAN'S DARTMOUTH HYUNDAI'S

WIN WIN WIN

Get AN AWARD WINNING VEHICLE, FREE TRIP FOR TWO AND NOW A FREE GAS CARD!*

SAVE UP TO 40¢/L

2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA Sedan

- AJAC's Best New Small Car (over $21k)
- North American/Canadian Car of the Year
- Up to 58 MPG + 8 trim lines to choose from

STARTING FROM $15,849

SAVE 20¢/L



16 LEFT

BUY FROM $94* BW

LEASE FROM $199* MO

2012 HYUNDAI SANTA FE

- Top selling SUV brand in Canada
- 2012 Top safety pick (IIHS)
- Up to 39 MPG + 10 trim lines to choose from

SAVE 30¢/L



STARTING FROM $23,999

22 LEFT

BUY FROM $132* BW

LEASE FROM $359* MO



Plus

Remaining Elantras sold in March receive a FREE trip for 2 to Florida with airfare and hotel included!



Plus

Remaining Santa Fes sold in March receive a FREE cruise for 2 with airfare included!

O'REGAN'S DRIVING HIGHER STANDARDS

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